

Best Practice

Jubilee Park

CONTACT

Town of Shaunavon
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Box 820, Shaunavon, SK S0N 2M0
Project Date: Ongoing — began in 2011

THE PRACTICE

The Town of Shaunavon rehabilitated recreational infrastructure including a new arena, curling rink, skate park, tennis courts, playground, ball diamonds, swimming pool, basketball courts, and an outdoor rink with more plans for the future.

THE PROCESS

After the opening of the Crescent Point Wickenheiser Centre in 2011, the Town of Shaunavon shifted the focus of its work on rehabilitation of recreational infrastructure with a five-year plan for recreation and cultural initiatives. Jubilee Park was the result of listening to community concerns and developing long-term goals and creating a priority list:

1. Upgrade the swimming pool
2. Revamp the tennis courts and install a basketball court
3. Deal with the concrete pad left after the old curling and skating rink was torn down
4. Upgrade the ball diamonds
5. Install an outdoor rink
6. Install a playground at Jubilee Park

Town council, the wellness and leisure committee, and administration (public works, director of parks and facilities, and director of wellness and leisure) worked with community groups and local businesses to move the project forward. The project involved more than 200 hours of volunteer time, gifts in kind, grants, sponsorship, and municipal funds designated to the recreation enhancements.

THE RESULTS

The goal and purpose for the upgrades was to provide a safe and healthy environment where the community could participate in recreation activities. The project has lead to:

- increased physical fitness in the community;
- a safe and secure environment for community members to take part in creative and imaginative play;
- the chance for community members to have respect for local parks and playgrounds;
- recreational facilities which fit the needs and values of local community members; and
- the opportunity for community members to gain self-awareness and self-respect through play incentives.

LESSONS LEARNED

Implement a number of processes before deciding on conducting any major upgrades to park and playgrounds:

- Ensure there is transparency with all projects and user groups.

- Include user groups in the project designs.
- Build partnerships to help assist with fundraising efforts.
- Conduct an investigation into the companies the organization will be purchasing from. Make sure they meet the community standards, are aware of the community's needs and situation, and are willing to work with volunteers.
- On installation dates, make sure the organizer is aware of all the equipment that is needed for the installation and has conducted all of the preparations beforehand (excavations, 1st Call...etc.) and has a volunteer schedule.
- Ensure all projects meet the needs of public works and parks and facilities.
- Thank everyone – sponsors, volunteers, givers of gifts in kind – if it was not for these individuals, the project would not have happened!



Celebrating Municipal Excellence

Nomination Form

Deadline: 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 9, 2015

Nominee Contact Information	
Name of municipality/ municipalities being nominated: <small>(please include the names of all partner municipalities)</small>	Town of Shaunavon
Contact Name:	Kyle Bennett
Telephone #:	306-297-2605
Mailing Address:	Box 820, Shaunavon Sk., S0N 2M0
E-mail Address:	ktbennett@telus.net
Name of Nominated Practice or Project:	Jubilee Park
Date of Project or Practice Initiation:	2011
Date of Project or Practice Completion: <small>(If ongoing, please indicate)</small>	Forever ongoing!
	Ongoing: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X

Nominator Contact Information	
Name:	Kyle Bennett
Organization:	Local Buisnessman, and Town of Shaunavon Alderman
Position:	Alderman, and Business owner
Mailing Address:	Box 1454 Shaunavon SK S0N 2M0
Telephone #:	306-294-7877
E-mail Address:	ktbennett@telus.net

Please remember when filling out your nomination that winning practices are posted in the Best Practices Library, so be sure to include all information that may be helpful to others if it were to be used as a reference or resource.

The Practice

1. What was the issue that inspired the nominated project or practice?
2. What has this project or practice done to address the issue?

The Town of Shaunavon, has made it a priority to rehabilitate Shaunavon's recreational infrastructure. This focus and determination began in 2002 with the fundraising efforts to build a new arena and curling rink. In 2011 Shaunavon, announced to the world that it officially opened the Crescent Point Wickenheiser Centre (CPWC).

The opening of the CPWC created a community wide awareness of the degradation of the Town's playground equipment. Parks in Shaunavon were outdated and playground equipment had become a safety hazard for youth and infants. The Town of Shaunavon decided to focus all of its efforts on developing a plan to rehabilitate recreation in Shaunavon. Within the past five years, of the opening of the CPWC, Shaunavon has put thousands of dollars towards upgrades, maintenance and developments for recreation in Shaunavon.

These include the installation of entirely new recreation area – Jubilee Park:

- I. A new skate park.
- II. New pavement, nets, fencing and posts for our tennis courts.
- III. Instillation of a new playground.
- IV. The complete restructuring of Shaunavon ball diamonds. Including the installation of shale on three diamonds and has committed in 2015 to install irrigation, sod and crushed rock on the final field.
- V. A new filter system and boiler for the Shaunavon swimming pool. As well as new fencing surrounding the pool area.
- VI. The installation of basketball courts.
- VII. Installation of a new outdoor rink.

Many of these activities would not have taken place without the support of many local volunteers, community groups and gifts in kind. These projects have identified the growing need to upgrade Shaunavon's infrastructure. With the help of volunteers and sponsorship, community groups have gone above and beyond and added to this goal by installing;

- a. Two new playground structures at our local schools
- b. Two new playground structures, one at Avondale and one at Jubilee park

As one can see, this is truly a community effort.

The Town of Shaunavon has not stopped there, planning continues with the developments of:

- i. Dog park
- ii. Splash Park
- iii. Memorial Park Amphitheater
- iv. Residents are also planning a motocross track just outside of town

Culture and recreation continue to be a priority for the Town of Shaunavon – encouraging healthy, active living.

The Process

This section should be the longest and most detailed part of your nomination. Include enough information so that a municipality interested in applying the same project or practice can follow your steps.

3. Indicate who had a direct role in this project or practice:
X Municipal Council
X Municipal Administration
4. What was the role of the municipal council and/or municipal staff in this project or practice?
5. Were other groups were involved in developing this project or practice? If so, who were they and what role did they play?
6. What resources were involved?
7. How was the project or practice developed?

A large part of these projects were the result of municipal council, staff, as well as community groups volunteering their time to support the projects (as mentioned above).

Council's role included:

- Creating a 5 year plan for recreation and cultural initiatives in Shaunavon.
- Establishing the Wellness and Leisure Committee to oversee all recreation and cultural programming within Shaunavon.
- Approving and directing the use of resources.
- Creating key partnerships to enhance culture and recreation in the community.

Staff's Role Included:

- a. Director of Wellness and Leisure
Ava Kalaschnick the Director of Wellness and Leisure played an active part in managing partnerships and communicating with community groups.

Ava met with community groups in the development of the Skate park. A community engagement meeting was conducted with youth and community members. Discussion

revolved around the skateboard park structure. The structure chosen was one that was picked and planned by the community. Through a virtual presentation put on by the skate park suppliers.

The same process took place with the playground structure. Community meetings were arranged to ensure the proper structure was chosen for that area.

Ava was also responsible for:

- Ordering and purchasing the equipment
 - Working with the Director of Facilities and Parks and Public Works to ensure the site locations were appropriate for the projects. As well as, ensuring the equipment which was being ordered met the needs of both Public Work and Parks and Facilities.
 - Grant writing – raised over \$50,000 towards the Skate Park, Avondale Park and the Shaunavon Ball Diamonds.
 - Organised volunteer groups for the installation of the skate park, the Jubilee Park and the ball diamonds.
- b. Director of Parks and Facilities
Ron Phillips the Director of Parks and Facilities, was instrumental in with the implementation and installation of projects. Ron assisted with;
- Working with equipment suppliers to ensure the Town had the appropriate equipment and tools available for the installation.
 - Supervised the installation process
 - Directed volunteers.
- c. Public Works Department
Has assisted with these project goals in adding with;
- Any excavation that was needed
 - Equipment – such as a backhoe etc.
 - Site preparation

Wellness and Leisure Committee

The Wellness and Leisure Committee has recently been established. The committee held its first meeting in September of 2010. Previously, there were three boards which undertook the recreational activities in Shaunavon; the Recreation Board, the Jubilee Arena Board and the Curling Club. Now, the Wellness and Leisure Committee is made up of community members involved with; Minor Hockey, Youth Ball, Curling, Soccer... Etc., Committee members range from Her worship Mayor Sharon Dickie, members of town council and the High School Principal to Rural residence that are long time supporters of Hockey Curling and general recreation.

The Wellness and Leisure Committee is focused on providing the entire community with recreational and leisure services. The committees mandate focuses on the wellness of Shaunavon's residents and supports a healthy and active environment. The committee promotes community members to make

positive health choices and to participate in physical and recreational activities.

The Committee supports the Town of Shaunavon's plans to upgrade and reconstruct Shaunavon's recreational playground areas. The Wellness and Leisure Committee's has gone above and beyond to assist in creating this new image of Shaunavon's parks and playgrounds. The Committee has assisted in the development and plans with all of the upgrades and has ensured all upgrades have met safety codes, were designed for the community and managed the budgeting of these capital upgrades.

Other groups involved with these projects included:

Perk up Our Parks Committee

A group of volunteers have come forward with concerns about Shaunavon's playgrounds. This group of volunteers is focused on upgrading Shaunavon's parks. The committee has come forward to the Town of Shaunavon and has expressed their concerns over the safety of the park equipment. The Wellness and Leisure Committee will be collaborating closely with the Perk up our Parks, as the committee has helped with the Town of Shaunavon's long term goals for the playground and recreational area. The committee has decided to facilitate and assist with all of the fundraising efforts and will volunteer needed to assist with these projects.

Perk up our parks was instrumental in the installation of the Avondale playground and have been doing much fundraising and installation for the Memorial Park Bandstand Project.

Braydon Coburn Hockey School

Since July of 2011, Shaunavon has worked with the Braydon Coburn Hockey School Committee to host an annual Braydon Coburn Hockey School in Shaunavon for one week in July. The school is ran by Shaunavon's own Braydon Coburn – Tampa Bay Lightning Defenseman. Each year, the school donates a large sum of money to the Wellness and Leisure Committee, for capital projects. Since this time, Wellness and Leisure has been able to install the outdoor rink, a playground and a trophy case with the sponsored funds.

Youth Ball

Was the first group to identify the need for shaled ball diamonds. There was a great concern for the decrease in numbers joining baseball leagues in the summer months. Youth Ball has met with Wellness and Leisure and helped with the planning and implementing of shale on the diamonds. Youth Ball also provided all volunteers needed for the installation of the shale.

Kinsmen & Kinettes

The Shaunavon Kinsmen and Kinettes have been reserving their fund raising dollars in order to implement a new splash park. The Kinsmen and Kinettes will be helping the Town of Shaunavon with fundraising events and the implementation of the playground equipment and will be volunteering their

time throughout the Town's improvement plans.

Communities in Bloom

Communities in Bloom will be assisting with the beautification of Shaunavon's parks and green spaces. They are also instrumental in the development of an off leash dog park.

Local Businesses

Many local Business in town have been very generous and supportive of these projects. They have donated their time, equipment and man power to see these projects to completion.

Resources involved included:

- Over 200 hours of volunteer time
- 100s of volunteers for the installation of these projects
- Over \$50,000 of gifts in kind
- Over \$50,000 in grants
- Over \$ 250,000 in sponsorship
- Over \$ 350,000 in municipal funds designated to the enhancements for recreation in Shaunavon.

Project Development:

As mentioned above, Jubilee park was the result of a long-term 5 year plan to upgrade Shaunavon's parks and playgrounds. Jubilee Park was the result of listening to community concerns and developing long term goals - creating a priority list.

1. 1st priority on the list was to upgrade Shaunavon's swimming pool. This included installing a new filtration system and boiler. It also included re-painting the outside and inside of the building, painting the basin of the pool and creating a welcoming environment. This process was conducted by our Director of Wellness and Leisure, who liaised with the pool's service provider to decide what filtration system and boiler would work best, costs and installation process.
2. The second priority was re-vamping the tennis courts and installing a basketball court. This included;
 - The timing of the paving to when the pavers were already paving in Shaunavon.
 - Purchasing nets and equipment for the tennis courts and basketball nets
 - Ensuring 1st call was completed
 - Organising the fencing company to come in and install the fence around the tennis courts.
3. The third priority was the discussion of the concrete pad – which was a result of tearing down the old curling and skating rink. As this pad was used by skateboarder and BMXers, as well as to play ball hockey. The Town focused on developing an environment for both a skate park as well as an area to play hockey. With funds generated from a CIF grant, Shaunavon was able to install a skate park. As mentioned above, the structure was chosen by community members in a discussion with the skateboard company. After the structure was chosen, a delivery date and volunteers were organised to assist with the installation process.

4. The fourth priority was upgrading the Shaunavon's ball diamonds. With a grant that was approved by CIF, Shaunavon decided to Shale three of its four diamonds. This resulted in ordering shale, and communicating with a local business in town to prep the diamond for the shale. Volunteers from youth ball were used for the preparation and installation of the shale. Communication with Youth Ball was also important, as delivery dates and diamond preparation were conducted before the youth ball season started.

As well, the town has begun the preparations for the 4th diamond. Sod, has been installed with the help of volunteers from the men's baseball team. As well, irrigation was installed and rock chips ordered for the base runs.

5. The fifth priority was installing an outdoor rink. The current outdoor rink was outdated and lacked boards; therefore, with the sponsorship money from the Braydon Coburn Hockey School, as well as generous donations from local business members, the Town installed a new outdoor rink – the Braydon Coburn Outdoor Rink.
6. The six priority was the installation of a playground at Jubilee Park. The playground was purchased from the funds sponsored by the Braydon Coburn Hockey School. The playground equipment was purchased from Blue Imp. Blue Imp supplied all the equipment for 3 of the other new parks in town, and provided Wellness with a cheaper rate, since we continued with their business. Once a playground structure was chosen, an installation date was set and a number of community volunteers came out to support the project.

The Results

8. What effect did this project or practice have on the community?
9. Was a formal evaluation done after the project or practice was completed?
10. Describe any challenges faced.

The Town of Shaunavon's main goal and purpose for these upgrades, was to provide a safe and healthy environment where the community could participate in recreational activities.

This project affected the community by:

- Increasing physical fitness levels of community members.
- Providing a safe and secure environment where community members have the ability to have creative and imaginative play.
- Providing the opportunity for community members to have respect for their local parks and playground.
- Providing community members the opportunity to gain self-awareness and self-respect through play incentives
- Providing a recreational facilities which fit the needs and values of local community members

There was no formal evaluation done; however, it is obvious that this park is very highly used in the community. Youth are always on playing on the outdoor rink, skate park or playground. As well, youth ball numbers have increased. This demonstrates that the facilities are very highly used in the community.

At this time, there were no challenges faced. Since this was a well thought-out initiative and community's members were very much involved in the design plans, the town received great support from the community. We find if the whole community is involved from the start and their input is used as well as their volunteer hours the community takes ownership over the projects from the start. You can never go wrong when you bring a community together to accomplish a shared vision from start to finish.

Lessons Learned

11. What lessons were learned and what would you recommend doing differently?
Remember, all nominations will become part of the Best Practices Library, so be sure to include specific information.

At this time, I do not think there would be anything the town would do differently. However, the town does encourage a number of processes to implement before deciding on conducting any major upgrades to parks and playgrounds:

- Ensure there is transparency with all projects and user groups.
- Include user groups in the project designs.
- Build partnerships to help assist with fundraising efforts.
- Conduct an investigation into the companies the organisation will be purchasing from. Make sure they meet the community standards, are aware of the community's needs and situation and are willing to work with volunteers.
- On installation dates, make sure the organiser is aware of all the equipment that is needed for the installation and has conducted all of the preparations beforehand (excavations, 1st call...etc.) and has a volunteer schedule.
- Ensure all projects meet the needs of Public Works and Parks and Facilities.
- THANK – sponsors, volunteers, gifts in kinds... if it was not for these individuals, the project would not have happened!

Please submit your completed nomination package to:



E-mail: awards@municipalawards.ca or

Fax: Attn: Saskatchewan Municipal Awards Program, 306-798-2568; or

Mail: Saskatchewan Municipal Awards, Room 1010 – 1855 Victoria Avenue, Regina, SK S4P 3T2

Contact: Phone No. 306-525-4398

Thank you for submitting a nomination for the 2015 Saskatchewan Municipal Awards.